5   We claim:

1. A system for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video files

for public access over the internet, comprising:

a central server accessible over a distributed communication backbone for storing a

central library of multimedia content;

10   a network administrator for maintaining said library of multimedia content at the central

server, said maintenance including tagging each work with an abstract of information and storing

the multimedia work with associated abstract in said central library;

a catalog of available multimedia works intermittently compiled from the abstracts and

stored on said central server;

15   a remote content review/control site that intermittently polls the catalog maintained on

the central server to ascertain when new works have become available, said remote content

review/control site allowing a reviewer to edit the abstract of information and view each

corresponding work, and to approve/disapprove each such work for public access;

whereby when a particular work is deemed suitable by the remote content review/control

20   site, a publication approval message is sent to the network administrator indicating that the work

should be made available by streaming for general public access.

2. The system for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet according to claim 1, wherein said library of multimedia

25   content at the central server is maintained in an SQL database.

5   3. The system for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet according to claim 1, wherein said library of multimedia

content at the central server is maintained in a uniform digital video format.

    4. The system for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

10 files for public access over the internet according to claim 1, wherein said library of multimedia

content at the central server is maintained in AVI digital format.

    5. A method for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet, comprising the steps of:

15   providing a web portal to independent video producers by which they can upload their

video files to a central upload site;

    performing pre-processing on each video file uploaded to said central upload site, said

pre-processing including verification of a video file format, screening based on file size,

translation when necessary to a uniform pre-determined file format, tagging each file added to

20 said database with an abstract of information, and storage of each pre-processed file in a

database of files needing approval;

    sending an administrative alert for each file added to said database to an administrator;

    maintaining a catalog at said central upload site of all new tagged files in said database;

    periodically canvassing said catalog from a remote reviewing site, and for each new

25 tagged file in said database, reviewing the abstract and content of the tagged file as desired and

5   sending a publication approval or disapproval message back to the administrator at the central

upload site.

6. The method for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet according to claim 5, wherein said step of storing each

10   pre-processed file in a database of files needing approval further comprises storing each pre-

processed file in an SQL database library of multimedia content at the central upload site.

7. The method for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet according to claim 6, wherein said step of storing each

15   pre-processed file in a database of files needing approval further comprises storing each pre-

processed file in a uniform digital video format.

8. The method for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet according to claim 7, wherein said step of storing each

20   pre-processed file in a database of files needing approval further comprises storing each pre-

processed file in AVI digital format.

9. A method for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet, comprising the steps of:

25   uploading digital video works from independent producers to a central upload site;

5   tagging each digital video work with an abstract of information including any fields from among the group comprising subject matter category, subject, date, runtime, author, and rating;

storing each tagged work with associated abstract in a database on a web-enabled network server;

periodically canvassing the abstracts on said network server and compiling a catalog of

10   available works at said network server;

maintaining a remote content review/control site for reviewing and controlling availability of said digital video works for public access, said remote content review/control site periodically polling said catalog at the network server to ascertain when new works are available, and said remote content review/control site having the ability to screen each new

15   digital video work by abstract and by content in real time by audio/video streaming, and to approve/disapprove each said work for public access viewing, whereby said content review/control site serves as a gatekeeper to screen those works that are appropriate for general public access.

20   10. The method for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video files for public access over the internet according to claim 9, further comprising a step of receiving mailed NTSC videos and digitizing said NTSC videos into digital video works at said central upload site.

5   11. The method for distributed maintenance and publishing control of a library of video

files for public access over the internet according to claim 9, further comprising the step of

providing streaming video access to all works approved by said review/control site for public

access viewing.